

Message Text

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44

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 USIA-15 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10

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R 141451Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1151

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: US HOCKEY CLUB INTEREST IN SOVIET PLAYER

FOR CU/IAP.

1. FYI -- MR. AGGIE KUKULOWICZ, A CANADIAN CITIZEN WHO WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN LST YEAR'S SOVIET TEAM-CANADA HOCKEY SERIES, CALLED ON EMBASSY AUG 14 AND INFORMED US THAT HE IS CARRYING LETTER FROM GENERAL MANAGER OF ATLANTA FLAMES TO PAVLOV, PRESIDENT OF USSR SPORTS COMMITTEE. LETTER OFFERS \$250,000 CONTRACT WO WELL-KNOWN SOVIET PLAYER ANATOLI FIRSOV TO PLAY FOR FLAMES OVER THREE YEAR SEASON BEGINNING THIS YEAR.

2. DURING VISIT KUKULOWICZ WONDERED IF US EMBASSY WOULDN'T BE INTERESTED IN DELIVERING LETTER. WE RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR EMBASSY TO BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN PRIVATE BUSINESS DEAL, BUT THAT WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED. KUKULOWICZ IMPLIED THAT CANADIAN TEAMS MAY ALSO BE DEALING FOR SOVIET HOCKEY STARS AND THAT CANADIAN GOVERNMENT MAY BE TAKING DIRECT HAND IN MATTER.

3. KUKULOWICZ IS HERE AS PART OF CANDADIAN REPRESENTATION TO UNIVERSIADE GAMES. HE SAID MATTER OF SOVIET PLAYER BECOMING MEMBER OF CANADIAN OR US HOCKEY CLUB FIRST CAME UP IN INFORMAL DISCUSSINS HE HAD WITH SOV. REPRESENTA-TIVES OF SPORTS COMMITTEE WHO WERE IN CANADA ATTENDING
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STANLEY CUP SERIES. SOVS AT FIRST ONLY AMUSEDLY INTERESTED

UNTIL KUKULOWICZ MENTIONED LARGE SUMS OF MONEY THAT COULD BE OFFERED. INTEREST THEN BECAME MORE SERIOUS, AND LETTER CARRIED BY KUKULOWICZ IS ATTEMPT TO FOLLOW UP.

4. KUKULOWICZ ALSO LEFT COPY OF ITINERARY OF SOVIET TEAMS THAT WILL VISIT US THIS WINTER TO PLAY SEVERAL US HOCKEY TEAMS. ALTHOUGH WE PRESUME DEPT ALREADY KNOWS SCHEDULE WE ARE POUCHING COPY WHICH MAY OFFER MORE RECENT INFORMATION.
DUBS

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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